Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The Law Enforcement Torch Run began in 1981 with Wichita, Kansas, Police Chief Richard LaMunyon recognizing an urgent need to raise funds for, and increase awareness of, Special Olympics; and,

Whereas, The Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics has become an international event as a series of relays by law enforcement officers to raise money for Special Olympics, and is the movement's largest grass-roots fundraiser and public awareness vehicle; and,

Whereas, The Special Olympics Torch has been carried by law enforcement agencies across the state of South Dakota for the past 15 years; and,

Whereas, In 2004, thanks to the involvement of hundreds of law enforcement officers, the Torch Run raised over $123,000, which directly benefited over 2,000 Special Olympians in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, The Law Enforcement Torch Run will be a part of this year's Special Olympics with a kick-off event commencing in Aberdeen and Sioux Falls on May 9, 2005. The run will continue through May 12 as they make their way across the state arriving in Spearfish for the opening ceremonies of the Special Olympics Summer Games; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper for the Governor to recognize the significance of the contribution the law enforcement officers make to the Special Olympics in South Dakota:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 9-12, 2005, as

LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN WEEK

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-sixth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State
by Deputy